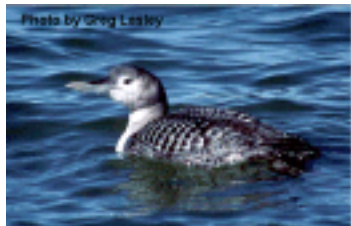


Yellow-billed Loon *Gavia adamsii*

Adult basic or immature		Summer range map	Winter range map
	<div>Not Available</div>	<div>Not Available</div>	<div>Not Available</div>

Migration Status	Breeding Habitat	Nest Location	Nest Type	Clutch Size	Incubation	Fledge	Number of Broods	Diet
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	27-29 days	?	1	Fish, Aquatic Invertebrates

Identification Tips:

- Length: 25 inches Wingspan: 60 inches
- Sexes similar
- Immature like basic-plumaged adult
- Large diving bird with long body that rides low in the water
- Large bill is beveled upwards at tip and is held slightly above horizontal
- Feet set far back on body, and trail behind body in flight
- Upperwings wholly dark in flight

Adult alternate:

- Yellow bill
- Black head
- Black neck with white markings
- White chest and belly
- Black back with white checkering and spotting

Adult basic:

- Pale bill
- Gray-brown cap, forehead, nape, hindneck, and back
- White face, eye ring, chin, throat, foreneck, and belly
- Dark auricular spot

Similar species: Cormorants have hooked bills. Western, Clark's, and Red-necked grebes have thinner bills and show white in the wings in flight. Red-throated Loon has a thinner, upturned bill. In basic and immature plumages its back is spangled with white spots and its head and neck are pale gray, with a straighter line of division with the white foreneck. Pacific Loon has a shorter, thinner bill, a sharp line dividing the pale foreneck, and dark hindneck and no white around the eye. The Common Loon is similar in all plumages, but has a bill that is straight at the tip and a less blocky head, and an entirely dark culmen beyond the gonys. In basic and immature plumages, the Common Loon's head and hindneck are darker without a darker spot to the auriculars, and back has less pattern.

Credits:

Citation:

Gough, G.A., Sauer, J.R., Iliff, M. *Patuxent Bird Identification Infocenter* 1998. Version 97.1. Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD.
<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/Infocenter/infocenter.html>

Length and wingspan from:

Robbins, C.S., Bruun, B., Zim, H.S., (1966). *Birds of North America*. New York: Western Publishing Company, Inc.

Clutch size, fledging, brood, and incubation information from:

Ehrlich, P., Dobkin, D., and Wheye, D. (1988). *The Birder's Handbook: A Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds*. New York. Simon and Schuster Inc.